

08.07.2025

Neuvième Art

Fair & exhibitions of original comics, manga & BD artworks

Following its announcement in May, NEUVIEME ART unveils an ambitious programme for this new rendez-vous for art lovers in Brussels.

NEUVIEME ART has been designed in a unique format: the first art fair dedicated to the 9th art, combined with a curated series of major exhibitions, talks, and discussion spaces exploring the links, relationships and cross-influences between comics and other artistic disciplines.

Initiated by the Franco-Belgian duo Jean-Marc Dimanche and Gilles Parmentier, NEUVIEME ART will offer an intense schedule of activities (across over 4,000 m² / FAIR – EXHIBITIONS – TALKS – SHARE), focusing exclusively on showcasing artists and original works from the world of BD, comics, manga and graphic novels.

+ 10 Belgian and European art galleries brought together on the ground floor for the first art fair dedicated exclusively to original works from the world of the Ninth Art.

+ 3 majors exhibitions of original artworks, developed with leading partner institutions. With Brussels as the guest city of honour for this edition, NEUVIEME ART will present an exceptional exhibition of over 100 original works celebrating the capital of comics. The exhibition will explore Belgian comics (in collaboration with the Centre Belge de la Bande Dessinée) and their influence on contemporary drawing (in collaboration with The Drawer magazine).

+ 15 talks and panel discussions from Friday to Sunday, presented in collaboration with numerous key partners and institutions (KBR, KBR, Centre belge de la Bande dessinée and more).

+ Several VIP and professional event. The event will also host the official Atomium Awards evening, organised by Visit Brussels as part of the BD Comic Strip Festival on Friday 26 September 2025. The Atomium Awards honour comic creators during the BD Comic Strip Festival, held simultaneously at the nearby Gare Maritime (attracting over 60,000 visitors).

FAIR – Europe's first art fair dedicated to the 9th art

Bringing together around ten European galleries, the fair will take over the ground floor of the Hôtel des Douanes (2000 m²), presenting an outstanding selection of original works from the worlds of comics, manga, BD, and illustration. For its inaugural edition, the fair is announcing a first series of galleries and artists already confirmed:

- **Huberty** (BE–FR)
Artists: Philippe Geluck, Gilles Barbier, TURK, Gazzotti, MIDAM, Nicolas de Crécy, Olivier Ledroit, François Avril, Jean-Claude Götting, LOUSTAL
- **Galerie Martel** (BE–FR)
Artists: Alex Barbier, Brecht Evens, Chris Ware, Dominique Goblet, Emil Ferris, Guido Crepax, Eric Lambé, Fred, Gary Panter, Miroslav Sekulic-Struja, José Muñoz, Ugo Bienvenu, Art Spiegelman
- **Gilles Peyroulet & Cie** (FR)
Artists: Guido Crepax, Gilbert Shelton, Reiser, Claire Brétecher
- **Art Maniak** (FR)
Artists: Coco, Alain Poncelet, Virginio Vona
- **Sultans of Mangas** (BE)
Artists: Osamu Tezuka, Senno Knife, Yuji Hosoi, Yumiko Igarashi

EXHIBITIONS

On the first floor of the Hôtel des Douanes, three thematic exhibitions will explore various aspects of the 9th Art. These exhibitions will be open to the public and will delve into the broad universe and evolving influence of comics today.

Brussels will be the 'guest city of honour' for this first edition, and will be showcased in an exceptional exhibition of over 100 original works.

- **“Bruxelles, entre lignes et détours”** – Curated by artist David Merveille
The exhibition will bring together around a hundred works by artists who have illustrated Brussels in all its forms. Each contributes their own vision, offering a mosaic of interpretations that position the city at the heart of their narratives – showcasing the diversity and richness of Brussels in contemporary narrative drawing.

Artists include: François Avril, Jean-Michel Beuriot, Abdel de Bruxelles, Dominique Corbasson, Jade De Meyer, Philippe de Kemmeter, Johan de Moor, Pieter de Poortere, Marion Demeulenaere, Frédéric du Bus, Laurent Durieux, Philippe Dupuy, Ever Meulen, Benoit Feroumont, Jean-Claude Götting, Louis Joos, Jeanne Kiviger, Emmanuel Lemaire, Clara Lodewick, David Merveille, Romain Renard, Tom Schamp, François Schuiten, Luc Schuiten, Etienne Schréder, Salemi, Jan Van De Veken, Judith Vanistendael, Klaas Verplancke

- **“La BD belge”** – In partnership with Le Centre Belge de la Bande Dessinée exploring the diversity of Belgian comics. Around twenty original comic strips with a variety of graphic approaches. Each work showcases the diversity and richness of Belgian comics, both French- and Dutch-speaking.

Artists include: Jijé, Mitacq, William Vance, Bob De Moor, Merho, Jean-Claude Servais, Frank Pé, Philippe Geluck, Chantal de Spiegeleer, Yslaire, Philippe Francq, Magda, Tibet, Olivier Grenson, Ben Gijsemans, Midam, Judith Vanistendael, Joris Mertens, Mathilde Van Gheluwe, Simon Spruyt

- **“Nouveaux Récits”** – Curated by Sophie Toulouse and Barbara Soyer of The Drawer
This exhibition looks at comics from a contemporary, multimedia angle. Featuring a dozen artists whose work draws from – and redefines – the codes of comics: non-linear storytelling, no panels, or even paper. Blending 2D and 3D, sculpture and animation, this exhibition highlights diverse, reinvented forms of the Ninth Art. With the support of the French Embassy in Belgium. As part of EXTRA, a program that supports French contemporary creation in Belgium.

Artists include contributors to The Drawer vol.25 (March 2025, comics edition) and emerging Belgian-based illustrators such as: Louise Aleksiejew & Antoine Medes, Perrine Boudy, Léa Bouton, Nina Cosco, Peter Frederiksen, Antony Huchette, Pablo Mathias Gonzalez, Amandine Maas, Léa Le Floc’h, Jules Magistry, Gaël Sillere, Clément Suanez, Caroline Tschumi

TALKS

A series of talks and discussions held in partnership with major Belgian and European institutions, including KBR, la Cité internationale de la bande dessinée et de l’image (Angoulême), le Centre de la Gravure et de l’Image imprimée, and le Centre Belge de la Bande Dessinée.

- **A series of 4 conferences dedicated to Belgian comic strip heritage**, organised in partnership with KBR and led by the ACME research group (University of Liège).

“While Belgium is internationally recognised for its comic strips, preserving and promoting this heritage is a relatively recent concern. This series of talks will highlight the main initiatives in this field, including those of KBR, and reflect on essential issues such as the role of comics in collective memory, the urgency of protecting a shared cultural asset, and digitisation strategies to make collections more accessible to researchers and the public.”

- **Presentation of the “Brecht Evens est pressé” exhibition** by Christophe Veys, Director of the Centre de la Gravure et de l’Image imprimée
- **Talk by a representative of the Cité internationale de la bande dessinée et de l’image**

SHARE

Dedicated spaces for networking and dialogue will encourage professional exchange and the development of off-site programming from September 2026.

VIP Programme

The professional and VIP programme includes privileged access and private tours such as:

- A guided visit to the KBR exhibition, presenting a wide selection of documents from its comic collections (original plates, woodcuts, 19th-century magazines, post-war children's comics, 1960s–70s counter-culture zines, early and recent albums, etc.)

PARTNERS

NEUVIEME ART is made possible thanks to the support of numerous partners. Special thanks to Nextensa, strategic partner of the Tour & Taxis site, and Moleskine, for this promising first collaboration.

We also acknowledge the involvement of Visit Brussels, the City of Brussels, the French Embassy in Belgium, Cera, and all those committed to promoting the Ninth Art in all its forms.

Media visibility is supported by key press partners including: Le Quotidien de l'Art, La Libre, Moustique, Paris Match, BHS Media, Luxury Brussels and L'Éventail.

NEUVIEME ART / Fair & Exhibitions of Original Comics, Manga & BD Artworks
Hôtel des Douanes (Tour & Taxis, Brussels), 3 rue Picard, 1000 Brussels

- **25 September 2025** – VIP & Media Preview
4:00 PM – 9:00 PM – by invitation
- **26 to 28 September 2025** – Public Days
Friday–Saturday: 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM – €20 entry
Sunday: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM – €20 entry

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